

Historical Natural Gas Annual 1930 Through 1998

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Preface

The *Natural Gas Annual* provides information on the supply and disposition of natural gas to a wide audience including industry, consumers, Federal and State agencies, and educational institutions. This report, the *Historical Natural Gas Annual* presents historical data for the Nation from 1930-1998, and by State from 1967-1998.

The data in this publication are taken from surveys conducted by the Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), to fulfill its responsibilities for gathering and reporting energy data. Two EIA surveys provide most of the information presented in this report the mandatory Form EIA-176, "Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition," and the Form EIA-895, "Monthly Quantity and Value of Natural Gas Report." Form EIA-176 was submitted by respondents out of an identified universe of operators of fields, wells, or natural gas processing plants who distribute gas to end users or transport gas to or across a State border; operators of synthetic natural gas plants; natural gas distributors; natural gas pipeline companies; and companies that operate underground natural gas storage facilities. Form EIA-895 was submitted by the appropriate agencies of the 33 natural gas producing States.

Data collected on Form EIA-176 are not proprietary. Selected company-level data are presented in the Demand section.

Other EIA surveys that provided information for this report are Forms EIA-816, "Monthly Natural Gas Liquids Report," and EIA-64A, "Annual Report of the Origin of Natural Gas Liquids Production," for gas processed, plant fuel, and extraction loss data; Form EIA-857, "Monthly Report of Natural Gas Purchases and Deliveries to Consumers," for data on the citygate prices; Forms EIA-759, "Monthly Power Plant Report," and FERC-423, "Monthly Report of Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Plants," for data on the quantity and price of natural gas consumed by electric utilities; and Office of Fossil Energy, "Natural Gas Imports and Exports," for data on the quantity and price of natural gas imports and exports. The EIA report, *U.S. Crude Oil, Natural Gas, and Natural Gas Liquids Reserves, Annual Reports*, was the source of the reserves data.

Some of the data are collected under the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), an independent commission within the DOE that has jurisdiction primarily in the regulation of electric utilities and the

Cautionary Note: Number of Residential Consumers

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) expects that there may be some double counting in the number of residential users reported for 1998, specifically that some residential customers were reported as both sales and transportation customers.

To collect data for the number of residential consumers, EIA currently surveys companies that deliver gas to consumers. Traditionally, residential customers have obtained the gas commodity, and all services associated with delivering it, from their local distribution company (LDC). The LDC records these customers as sales customers. Customer choice programs allow consumers to select the provider from whom they purchase gas. When customers elect to purchase gas from a provider other than the LDC, the LDC continues to deliver the gas to the household, even though it no longer sells the gas. The LDC records these customers as transportation customers. A residential customer who entered a customer choice program during 1998 would have been classified early in the year as a traditional sales customer and again later in the year as a transportation customer. This double reporting affects the number of residential consumers and the average annual residential consumption per consumer shown in the *Historical Natural Gas Annual 1998*.

To help readers evaluate the problem of double reporting, Table A7 is provided in Appendix A, "Summary of Data Collection Operations and Report Methodology," of the *Natural Gas Annual 1998* publication. It lists residential customers by sales and transportation, known as "deliveries for the account of others," for 1997 and 1998. Appendix A also includes the survey Form EIA-176, "Annual Report of Natural and Supplemental Gas Supply and Disposition." Numbers of residential customers are reported on this form for both sales and transportation classifications.

Various customer choice programs, also known as retail unbundling programs, were implemented in many States during 1998. A description of these programs by individual State is on the EIA web site at: www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/natural_gas/restructure/restructure.html.

interstate natural gas industry. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the United States Minerals Management Service (MMS) of the Department of the Interior, and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) were sources of supplemental information on production, the number of producing gas and gas-condensate wells, and wellhead values. The geographic coverage is the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

See Appendix A of the *Natural Gas Annual 1998* report for a description of the data collection surveys, the report method-

ology, and survey response rates. All volumes of natural gas in this publication are reported at 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute and 60 degrees Fahrenheit, except where noted. A glossary of terms is provided to assist users in understanding the data presented. Appendix A lists additional natural gas information sources.

The tables of data that appear in this report are available on the Internet. Visit our World Wide Web Site at: <http://www.eia.doe.gov> or see the Contacts page for specific inquiries.

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